

## **UNWTO activities related to Decision 1/CP.10:**

### **Adverse effects of climate change:**

#### Enhancing access to funds for adaptation:

- Helping countries (their National Tourism Administrations) to access the GEF Special Climate Change Fund: a series of pilot projects on tourism adaptation in SIDS has been initiated, through collaboration with UNEP and UNDP. Projects have been undertaken in Fiji and the Maldives, and discussions initiated with SIDS in other regions (like the Caribbean).
- Approaching other multi- and bilateral funding sources and private sector organizations, in order to secure co-financing for the GEF-SCCF-funded projects
- Providing support to other initiatives aiming at raising funds for climate change adaptation projects in the tourism sector (e.g. the CARIBSAVE project)

#### Enhancing national planning for adaptation:

UNWTO actively supports the integration of the tourism sector into national adaptation planning processes, as well as the integration of climate change adaptation criteria into national tourism planning processes through:

- Informing tourism ministries of Non-Annex I countries on the process of the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Communications, advocating their active involvement and contacting them with the designated UNFCCC country focal points.
- Creating linkages with national adaptation strategies, inter-ministerial climate change committees and country teams in the pilot SIDS tourism adaptation projects funded by GEF. For example, in the Maldives based on the project, a tourism component has been included in NAPA, and the project contributes to the implementation of the overall national adaptation strategy.
- Raising awareness in the tourism sector on climate change impacts and adaptation measures through a series of international conferences and high-level policy forums within the "Davos Process", initiated at the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Climate Change and Tourism in Davos, 2007. Dissemination of policy papers, such as the Davos Declaration, the Conclusions of the London Ministerial Summit, the resolution at the UNWTO General Assembly in Colombia and the UNWTO Secretary General' intervention at the Bali Summit on this topic. Dedicating the World Tourism Day in September 2008 to climate change and encouraging countries to hold special events.
- Organizing seminars to train tourism officials on adaptation planning techniques

#### Promoting risk management approaches, disseminating best practices and lessons learnt:

- Enhancing climate information tailored to the tourism sector (collaborations with WMO and its Expert Team on Tourism):
  - o World Climate Conference (WCC-3), UNWTO is the lead agency for the organization of a parallel session on climate information for risk management and adaptation in the transport and tourism sector
  - o Collaborations with MET Services in the SIDS pilot projects
- Integrating disaster risk management techniques preventing damages from extreme climatic events in the SIDS pilots
- Developing and disseminating technical publications addressing climate change impacts and adaptation responses:

- Climate Change and Tourism - Responding to Global Challenges (UNWTO/UNEP/WMO 2008)
- Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation in the Tourism Sector: Frameworks, Tools and Practices (UNEP/UNWTO/Oxford University 2008)
- Establishing web-based dissemination mechanisms:  
<http://www.unwto.org/climate> , <http://www.climatesolutions.travel>

## **Impact on the implementation of response measures**

### Enhancing practical approaches to address economic diversification:

- Promoting sustainable tourism as a means of diversifying national and local economies, as well as advocating for the diversification of tourism products and destinations as a means to adapt to climate change and reduce dependency on tourism activities in highly vulnerable areas (e.g. developing cultural tourism products to diversify the conventional beach tourism offer).

### Encouraging parties to provide information on their experiences and concerns:

- Advocating for balanced mitigation policies and measures that do not jeopardize national economies highly dependent on tourism.
- Organizing international conferences and policy forums to discuss on mitigation policies and their potential effects.
- Coordinating with international and private sector organizations (like ICAO, the UNWTO Business Council, Tour Operators Initiative) to advance with mitigation measures as part of sustainable development of the tourism and transportation sectors.
- Develop pilot mitigation projects (like the Energy Excellence in the Tourism Industry – an EU-funded project for the accommodation sector in Europe) addressing energy efficiency and renewable energies in an integrated way.